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## Register for Summer Reading to Keep Children on a Path to Achieve

**Newton, NC** – Do you know that children who don't read over the summer can lose up to three months of reading achievement? The American Sociological Review reports that summer learning loss accounts for about two-thirds of the ninth grade achievement gap in reading. Library Summer Reading Programs are designed to keep kids engaged in learning all summer long.

Families can prevent that summer slide and join the Catawba County Library System for exciting interactive programs that encourage kids and families to read and learn together. Participants keep a reading log to earn incentives and a chance at a drawing for prizes!

"We want to make sure our youngsters are extending their reading time and building their reading skills throughout summer so they can stay on a strong achievement path and avoid summer learning loss," says April Green, Children's Services Coordinator for the library, "and we include plenty of fun to go along with that learning!"

This year's themes center around themes of exercise, healthy habits, and stretching the mind, with: *On Your Mark - Get Set - READ* for children and *Get in the Game - READ* for teens. This summer adults can join the reading fun with *Exercise Your Mind!*

"One of the great things families can do this summer is visit a library and join the library's summer reading program" said Suzanne White, Library Director. "If students continue to read, especially books that they love, the enjoyment of reading plus the learning that's taking place is vital for success in the next school year and beyond."

System-wide registration begins May 23rd with summer learning programs kicking off on June 13th. All ages are encouraged to register online or at your local branch. Call 828-465-8664 for more information.

Families can also register for the Summer Reading Program at the Hickory Crawdads game on Monday, May 23rd while getting a discounted ticket when they present their Catawba County Library cards!

For the latest information about the summer reading program, and other library news, visit [librarynews.catawbacountync.gov](http://librarynews.catawbacountync.gov) or stop by your local branch.



**About:** The Catawba County Library is our community's place to connect, explore, and grow. We empower lives and build our community by bringing people, information, and ideas together. The library, headquartered in Newton, serves the community with seven locations throughout the county and is a year-round, integral provider of early literacy and lifelong learning resources and programming. The library also provides a full complement of computer and digital services, classes, and support to bridge the digital divide, empower job seekers, and enhance community quality of life and economic health.